

## B. POLLOCK STREET TRENCH

At the intersection of Eden Street and Pollock Street backhoe excavations were directed eastward to follow along the south pavement edge of Pollock Street. Excavation of the Pollock Street trench ended at a storm sewer drain box located approximately 10 feet west of the Tryon Palace entrance gate (datum point 3). This location was aligned with the western edge of pavement on George Street. The total length of the trench, beginning at the intersection of Eden Street and Pollock Street (datum point 2) and ending at the intersection of Pollock Street and George Street (datum point 3), was 118 feet.

### 1. Stratigraphy

The stratigraphy of the Pollock Street trench was documented in at 30 feet (Table 15) and 45 feet (Table 16) and in a continuous section between 73 and 110 feet (Figures 46-48). The stratigraphy of both the north and south profile at these locations was photographed and mapped. As noted in the east and west profile along Eden Street, the profile exposed along the street side, or in the case, the north profile, reveals a greater amount of variability in deposition. However, unlike the Eden Street trench, archaeological monitoring on Pollock Street encountered very few diagnostic materials (Provenience PST 1-3: Appendix B, Tables 25-46).

**Table 15. North profile of the Pollock Street Trench, 30 feet east of datum point 2.**

zone	feet below surface	description
Asphalt	0-0.4	road pavement
brick	0.4-0.8	road pavement
sand	0.8-1.0	builder's sand underlying brick pavers
1	1.0-1.3	dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) sandy loam
2	1.3-1.8	reddish brown (5YR 5/6) sandy clay loam mottled with grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
3	1.8-2.0	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sand mottled with light gray (10YR 7/2) sand
4	2.0-2.3	dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) clayey sand mottled with brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) clay, very light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand, very pale brown (10YR 7/3) sand & dark gray (10YR 4/1) sandy clay
5	below 2.3	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sand mottled with light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand similar to zone 4 without the brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) clay & very dark gray (10YR 3/1) sand

**Table 16. North profile of the Pollock Street Trench, 45 feet east of datum point 2.**

zone	feet below surface	description
asphalt	0-0.4	road pavement
brick	0.4-0.8	road pavement
sand	0.8-0.9	builder's sand underlying brick pavers
1	0.9-1.1	brown (10YR 5/3) sandy loam
2	1.1-1.2	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
3	1.2-1.7	strong brown (10YR 5/6) sandy clay loam
4	1.7-2.3	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy clay loam mottled with gray (10YR 5/1) sandy clay loam
5	2.3-2.6	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
6	2.6-3.2	gray (10YR 5/1) & light gray (10YR 7/2) sand
7	3.2-3.6	very dark gray (10YR 3/1) sandy loam
8	below 3.6	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clay mottled with white (10YR 8/1) sand

Figure 46. Pollock Street  
Trench, north  
profile 30 feet  
east of datum  
point 2.





Figure 47. Pollock Street Trench, north profile 45 feet east of datum point 2.

**Table 17. South profile of the Pollock Street Trench, 30 feet east of datum point 2.**

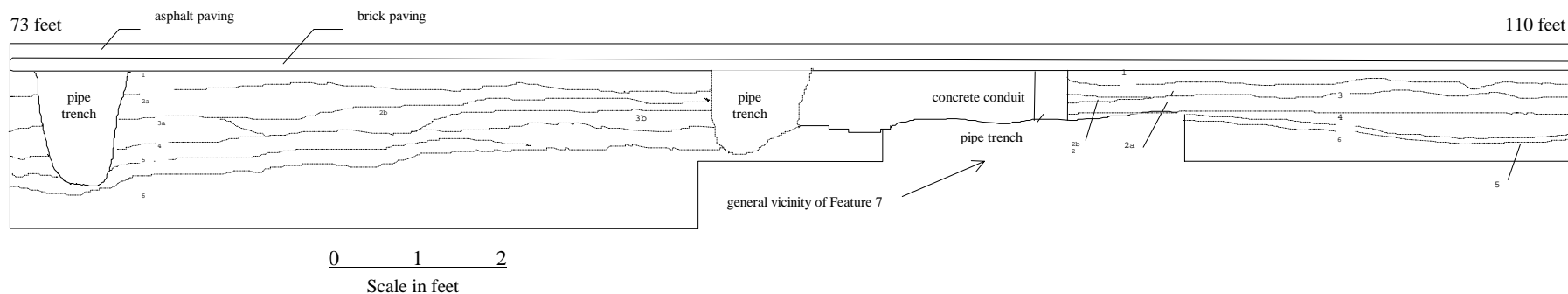
zone	feet below surface	description
granite	0-1.25	curbstone
1	1.25-1.45	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
2	1.45-1.7	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clay mottled with grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
3	1.7-2.0	brown (10YR 5/4) sandy loam
4	2.0-2.4	light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sandy loam
5	below 2.4	hard-packed mottled gray (10YR 5/1) and white (10YR 8/1) storm sand

**Table 18. South profile of the Pollock Street Trench, 45 feet east of datum point 2.**

zone	feet below surface	description
granite	0-1.25	curbstone
1	1.25-1.45	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
2	1.45-1.7	mottled zone of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clay and grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
3	1.7-2.0	brown (10YR 5/4) sandy loam
4	2.0-2.4	light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sandy loam
5	below 2.4	hard-packed mottled gray (10YR 5/1) and white (10YR 8/1) storm sand

**Table 19. North profile of the Pollock Street Trench between 73 and 110 feet east of datum point 2.**

zone	feet below surface	description
asphalt	0-0.4	road pavement
brick	0.4-0.7	road pavement
sand	0.7-0.75	white (10YR 8/1) coarse sand underlying brick pavers
1	0.75-1.0	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
2a	1.0-1.5	reddish brown (5YR 4/4) to grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
2b	1.3-1.6	light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) clayey sand mottled with dark grayish brown (10YR 5/2) & strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) sandy loam
3a	1.5-2.0	mottled very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2), very pale brown (10YR 7/3) & yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey sand
3b	1.5-2.1	mottled very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2), light gray (10YR 7/2) & yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey sand
4	2.0-2.3	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sand storm washed with light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand
5	2.3-2.45	hard-packed dark gray (10YR 4/1) silty sand mottled with light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand
6	below 2.45	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey sand



zone	feet below surface	description
asphalt	0 - 0.4	road pavement
brick	0.4 - 0.7	road pavement
builder's sand	0.7 - 0.75	white (10YR 8/1) coarse sand
1	0.75 - 1	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
2a	1 - 1.15	reddish brown (5YR 4/4) to grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam
2b	1.3 - 1.6	light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) clayey sand mottled with dark grayish brown (10YR 5/2) & strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) sandy loam
3a	1.5 - 2.0	very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) mottled with very pale brown (10YR 7/3) sand & yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey sand
3b	1.5 - 2.1	very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy loam mottled with light gray (10YR 7/2) sand & yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey sand
4	2 - 2.3	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sand with light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand
5	2.3 - 2.45	hard-packed dark gray (10YR 4/1) silty sand mottled with light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand
6	below 2.45	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey sand

Figure 48. Pollock Street Trench, north profile between 73 and 110 feet east of datum point 2.

## 2. Features

Three features (Features 7-9) were documented in the Pollock Street trench (Table 20). Feature 7 was a brick floor and foundation wall. Features 8 and 9 contained cultural material diagnostic of the middle eighteenth-century. Feature 8 was determined to be a sand walkway between raised garden beds and wood-lined drainage or irrigation channels. Feature 9 consisted of parallel depressions into a hard-packed surface and was interpreted as grooves cut by carriage wheels into an eighteenth-century road surface.

Table 20. Features recorded in the Pollock Street Trench.						
Feature Number	Date Recorded	Position east of datum point 2	Description	Depth	Temporal Affiliation	Provenience Code
7	22 May 1995	85 ft	brick foundation	undetermined	unknown	none
8	11 May 1995	63-70 ft	sand walkway	2.25 ft	18th century	PST 4
9	17 May 1995	70-110 ft	road	0.125-0.15 ft	18th century	none

**Feature 7** has limited documentation that consists of photographs taken during backhoe excavations (Figures 49 & 50). The feature consists of a single course of brick dry-laid on the stretcher and five courses of mortar-bonded brick.

Figure 49.  
South profile of Feature 7  
(photo by John Green, on  
file at Tryon Palace  
Commission House, New  
Bern).



Figure 50. South profile of Feature 7  
(photo by John Green, on  
file at Tryon Palace  
Commission House, New  
Bern).

**Feature 8** was recognized after the backhoe excavated 2½ feet below the existing road surface. This depth intruded about ½-1 foot into Feature 8. Archaeological inspection of the trench floor began with troweling and shovel shaving to assess the significance of the differences in the soil color (Figure 51). Two intrusions into the feature were noted: the storm sewer trench and a water pipe trench (Figure 52). While defining the feature it became clear that it consisted of multiple components (Table 21; Figures 53 & 54) that were more distinctly defined in the north profile than in the south (compare Figures 52 & 53).

<b>Table 21. Components of Feature 8.</b>		
component	description	diagnostic ceramic material (provenience code)
east builder's trench	grayish brown (10YR 5/2), very pale brown (10YR 7/4) & yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam	black lead-glazed redware, creamware (PST 4A)
east timber	very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay with small yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) mottles	creamware (PST 4B)
west builder's trench	grayish brown (10YR 5/2), very pale brown (10YR 7/4) & yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam	creamware (PST 4C)
west timber	very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay with small yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) mottles	creamware (PST 4D)
A	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sand with very pale brown (10YR 8/3) & brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sand with grayish brown (10YR 5/2) mottles	delftware, creamware (PST 4E)
B	very dark gray (10YR 3/1) sandy loam	delftware, creamware (PST 4F)
C	very dark gray (10YR 3/1) clayey loam	creamware (PST 4G)
subsoil	brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sand	none

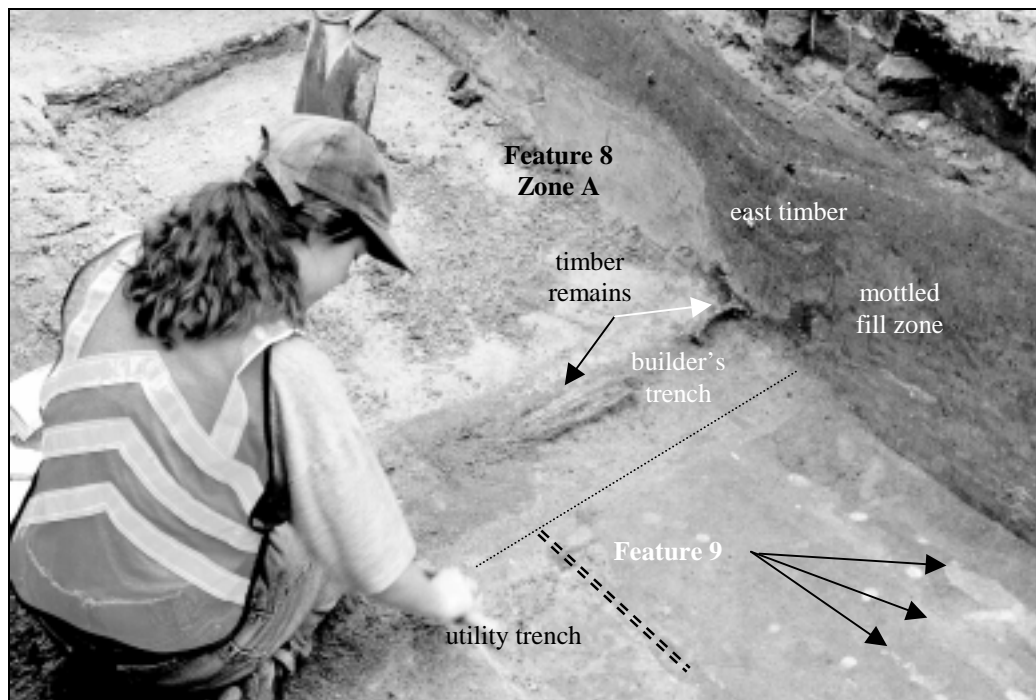


Figure 51. Features 8 and 9 before excavation, view northwest.

Feature 8 extended between 63 and 70 feet east of datum point 2. The soil to the east consisted of hard-packed very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/1) silty sand with numerous charcoal flecks and very pale brown (10YR 8/3) and white (10YR 8/1) one-inch diameter mottles. A lateral sewer line trench that cut through a mottled zone adjacent to Feature 8 defined the west boundary. The trench floor was photographed (Figure 53) and mapped in plan view (Figure 54) prior to excavating the feature by component (Figures 55-58 show the north and south profile of Feature 8 after excavation).

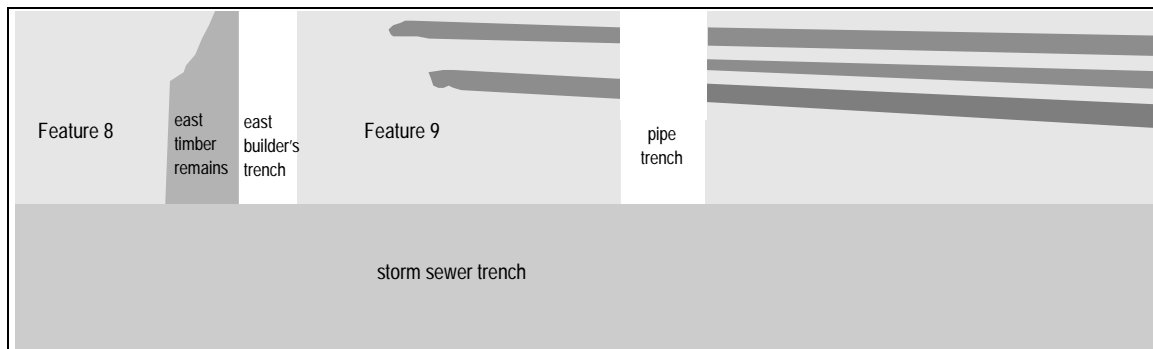


Figure 52. Feature 8, view northwest.

Figure 53. Features 8 & 9, view north.



Excavation began with the dark organic zone identified as “timber remains” that were located on the east and west side of the yellowish brown sand identified as zone 1 of Feature 8 (Figure 53 shows the yellowish brown sand - zone A of Feature 8 - with the east timber component.) The “timber remains” were approximately one foot wide; the soil matrix was a very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay that had a few small yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) mottles. The center of each timber component had a decomposing wooden trough that was estimated to be about ¼ foot wide. Excavation found the timber components to be about 1.6 feet deep. At the bottom, both were found to be slanted in profile with the eastern edge approximately six inches lower the western edge. The only diagnostic ceramic material recovered from the timber components was creamware.



- Feature 8:** yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) medium to fine-grained sand mottled with very pale brown (10YR 8/2) sand and light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) root mottles
- timber remains:** very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay with a few small yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) mottles
- builder's trench:** grayish brown (10YR 5/2), dark brown (10YR 3/3) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam
- Feature 9:** very loose light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand filled depressions in hard-packed very dark grayish brown 10YR 3/2 silty sand with abundant charcoal flecking and small mottles of very pale brown (10YR 7/3) sand

0 2 4  
Scale in feet

Figure 54. Plan view of Features 8 & 9 before excavation.



Figure 55. North profile of Feature 8.

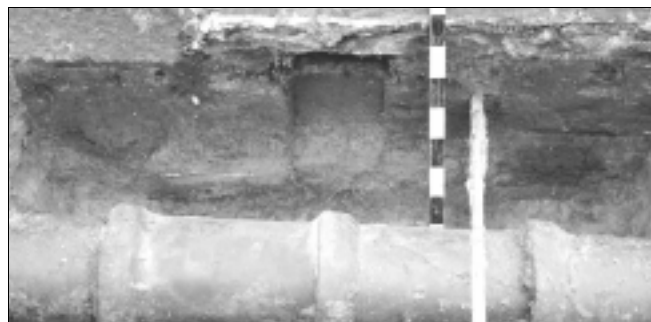


Figure 56. South profile of Feature 8.

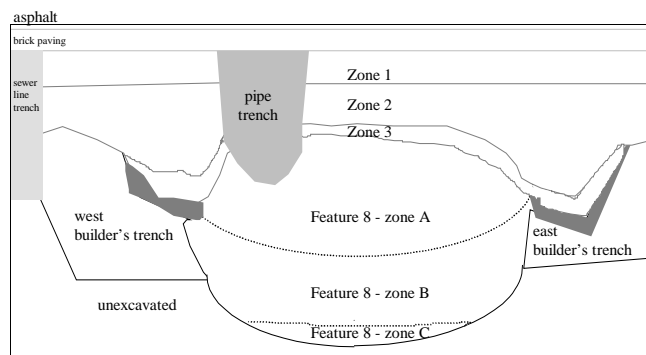


Figure 57. North profile of Feature 8.

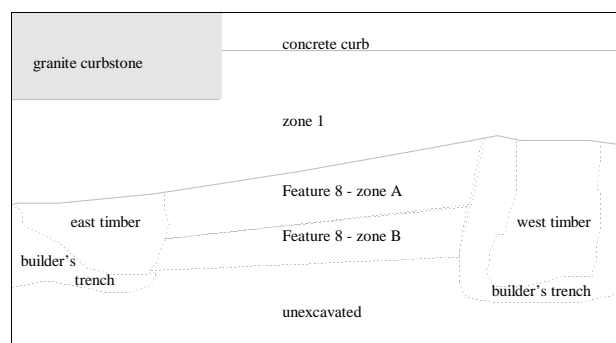


Figure 58. South profile of Feature 8.

0 1 2  
Scale in feet

Associated with both timber components was a mottled zone that was found to lie adjacent to and underneath the timber components. Initially, this was referred to as a builder's trench; however, later consideration about the relationship of the feature components has led to the possible explanation that only the lower section of the "builder's trench" component was connected with the construction of Feature 8 and that the "builder's trench" above the timber components may be a raised garden bed. If Feature 8 is interpreted to be a raised sand walkway with wooden drainage or irrigation channels on each side, then the built-up areas alongside the wooden troughs could have been raised garden beds. The soil in both (builder's construction trench and raised garden bed) was mottled with grayish brown (10YR 5/2), very pale brown (10YR 7/4) and yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam. Excavation of these two components yielded creamware, black lead-glazed redware and unglazed coarse earthenware that suggests delftware with a spalled glaze. As with the timber components, the ceramic material recovered from the builder's trench indicates late eighteenth-century deposition.

With the adjoining components excavated, zone A of Feature 8 remained. In plan view, this component measured 0.7 foot wide; in profile, it measured 4 feet. The matrix was a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) medium to fine-grained sand that was mottled with very pale brown (10YR 8/3) and brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sand. A few grayish brown (10YR 5/2) mottles were also noted. These were typically one inch in diameter and appeared to be root disturbance. Excavation of zone 1 began at 2½ feet below surface and was terminated between 3¼-3½ feet below surface at the interface with a very dark gray (10YR 3/1) sandy loam (zone 2). In profile, zone 1 was basin-shaped. Ceramic material recovered while screening consisted of undecorated delftware and creamware.

Zone B of Feature 8 was found to extend not only underneath zone A, but also under each of the adjoining timber components. Excavation of zone B was terminated when a very dark gray (10YR 3/1) clayey loam (zone 3) was encountered at the bottom; the east and west limits were defined by previously noted surrounding matrix consisting of mottled yellowish brown, dark grayish brown and light gray clayey loam. In profile the depth of this component ranged from ¾ of a foot in the center to 1¾ feet at the outer edge. Zone B was found to be flat-bottomed at the interface with zone C. As with zone A, the excavation of zone B resulted in the recovery of creamware and delftware.

In the center of the interface of the sandy loam of zone B and the clayey loam of zone C, was a concentration of large fragments of olive green bottle glass and turtle *Chrysemys scripta* plastron.

The color and texture of the soil provided no indication of animal disturbance; consideration was given to the possibility that these materials had been placed intentionally.

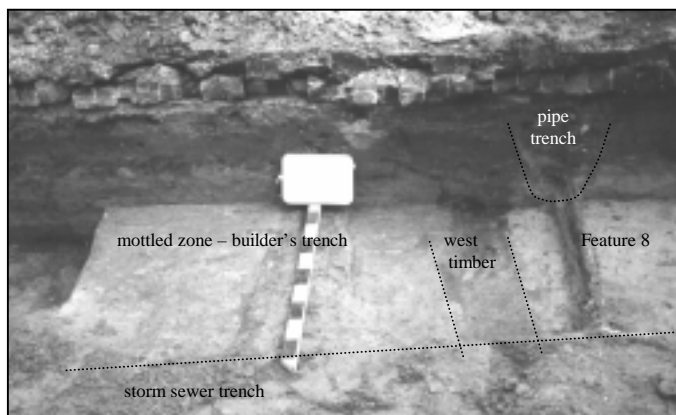
Excavation of zone C was extremely difficult. The clayey loam was dense, thereby making excavation and screening time-consuming. This zone was also found to be not only flat at the interface with zone B, but also flat-bottomed, terminating in brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) subsoil. Consistent with the ceramic recovery from the other components of Feature 8, zone 3 yielded creamware.

Following the excavation of Feature 8, the stratigraphy of the north profile was mapped and sampled for cultural material at 58 feet. The primary reason was to inspect this area where previous profile sampling (see Stratigraphy section above) failed to determine the temporal indicators for stratigraphic zones as well as to provide a context for the relationship between the stratigraphic zones in the north profile at 45 feet (see Figure 47) with Feature 8.

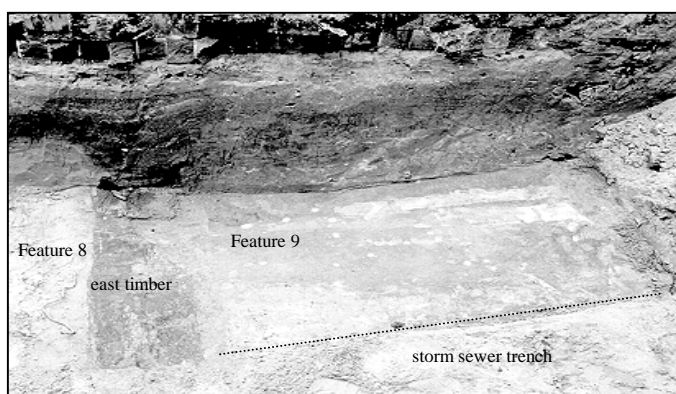
A 6-foot section of trench west of Feature 8 was shovel-shaved to document soil profiles and to look for other cultural features (Figure 59). The soil mottling identified as the “builder’s trench” was found to continue along the exposed 6-feet section. Between 58 and 60 feet east of datum point 2, a sample of the mottled soil was excavated by shovel and screened for artifacts (Table 22).

zone	feet below surface	description	diagnostic ceramic material (provenience code)
asphalt	0-0.4	road pavement	
brick	0.4-0.7	road pavement	
sand	0.7-1.0	builder’s sand underlying brick pavers	
1	1.0-1.4	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam with shell and brick fragments	none
2	1.4-1.8	reddish brown (2.5YR 4/4) mottled with yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) and grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy loam	blue transfer-printed pearlware, blue hand-painted pearlware (PST 5A)
3	1.8-2.4	mottled yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) clayey loam, dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) and light gray (10YR 7/2) sand	creamware (PST 5B)
4	2.4-2.6	grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sand mottled with light gray (10YR 7/2) sand	slipware (PST 5C)
5	2.6-2.7	hard-packed dark gray (10YR 4/1) silty sand	delftware, creamware (PST 5D)
6	below 2.7	yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sand	none

The sequence of soil deposition between 58 and 60 feet east of datum point 2 is identical to that documented for the “builder’s trench” adjacent to Feature 8. There is approximately ½ foot of mottled soil that contains creamware (zone 3) and overlies a thin layer of loose storm sand (zone 4) and a hard-packed layer of dark gray silty sand (zone 5). This is strong evidence that validates the raised garden bed interpretation presented above. Looking at the soil profile documented between 73 and 110 feet (see Figure 48) further supports this interpretation. Again, there is a mottled zone 3 that is approximately ½ foot deep overlying the thin layer of loose storm sand (zone 4) and a hard-packed dark gray silty sand (zone 5). A photograph of the north profile of a section of the Pollock Street trench between the “west timber” at 70 feet, and the intrusive “pipe trench” at 73 feet shows the extent of the mottled zone to the east of Feature 8. Unfortunately, several utility trenches have cut through about eight feet of the trench profile (see Figure 60) making it difficult to determine the easternmost extent of the mottled soil. Although, it appears that the mottled zone covers a distance of at least 20 feet until the utility trenches truncate it.



**Figure 59. North profile west of Feature 8.**



**Figure 60. North profile east of Feature 8.**

**Feature 9** was found to extend from the eastern builder's trench component of Feature 8 to the end of the Pollock Street Trench, from 70 feet east of datum point 2 to 110 feet at datum point 3. This feature consisted of two linear depressions into the compacted very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/1) silty sand (see Figures 53 and 54). They were 0.15 foot wide and paralleled Pollock Street. The depth of the depressions ranged from 0.125 to 0.15 foot. Because the depressions had been filled with light-colored soil, they were easy to distinguish against the dark soil. Overlaying Feature 9, as well as the hard-packed dark silty sand, was loosely consolidated marbled storm sand that was light gray (5YR 7/1) and light grayish brown (10YR 6/2). Small concentrations of brick fragments, creamware and pearlware were noted while troweling through the storm sand to expose Feature 9; however, the only material recovered from the compacted soil in which Feature 9 had been impressed was one piece of brown salt-glazed stoneware found while working near datum point 3.